

heard and felt a hundred beauties which delight the soul and fill it with happy memories. We enjoyed most the fish we didn't catch.

KEEPING FIELD RECORDS.

BY A. F. GAINER.

A detail in connection with bird study which is very generally accepted is the fact that we should keep systematic field notes and records of our observations. Just how to do this in the least irksome manner has been the cause of much thought and the subject of a number of articles on the subject.

The field notebook is used quite generally, but is objectionable, for the reason that it is more or less bulky, and for that reason is often left at home. Again we sometimes have so much respect for the neatness of its contents that we hesitate to scribble in it with a dull pencil, perhaps in the midst of a summer shower or a driving snow. Unless we submit to the expense and bulkiness of a loose-leaf notebook, we are unable to substitute new sheets for old should occasion arise.

After many years of systematic note keeping I have settled upon the card system of keeping field records and find it meets every need. Briefly, the idea is to have printed upon both sides of a 3x5 bristol board card the names of about 130 of the birds most often noted the year 'round. As shown by the illustration, there has been left below such species as the warblers, sparrows, etc., several blank lines for those which are rare and not ordinarily met, to be inserted in pencil should they be encountered. Sufficient space is left on the line behind each name to check off the number of individuals as they are met. Additional blank lines are also left at the end of the list for short notes, etc. The heading speaks for itself.

The cards are 3x5 in size, which dimensions are standard for index cards the country over. For this reason they will

a card with pencil in the front coat pocket, where it is so accessible that the matter of recording individuals becomes almost mechanical.

The cost of my cards printed on good white bristol board was \$4.50 per thousand. Care must be exercised that the right sized type be used in order that a sufficient space be left available for making the records.

Members of the Tennessee Ornithological Society are using this system altogether and are enthusiastic over it. The user of course may carry out his "office records" in as great detail as he likes, the cards being offered merely as a firm basis for the development of more voluminous notes should the observer have the time.

Nashville, Tenn.

THE SAVING OF A POND, AND THE RESULTING BIRD LIST.

BY HOWARD C. BROWN.

One windy day during a heavy snowfall, in the spring of 1917, the telephone in my father's real estate office tingled. When answered, an excited woman began talking. Her name was Mrs. ———, and she had just been told by a person living near Schneider's Pond that someone was there cutting all of the willows. So she had phoned to my father as a real estate agent, to find out if he could tell her who owned the property, so that the cutting could be stopped at once. Further explanation for stopping the cutting of willows was quite essential, and it was speedily given.

"You see," she continued, "that place is a perfect rendezvous for birds, and it would be a shame to destroy it. I thought that if I could learn who the owner was, perhaps he would stop it. For it must be stopped, and at once."

My father not knowing the owner, but sufficiently interested in any project which would benefit the birds, proposed that they make a trip to the Pond at once, to have an interview with the chopper. So out into the snowstorm he went